

Applic. No. 10/600,407

Amdt. dated December 1, 2004

Reply to Office action of July 1, 2004

Remarks/Arguments:

Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Claims 1-18 remain in the application. Claims 1 and 5 have been amended.

In item 2 on page 2 of the Office action, claims 1-4, 14, and 18 have been rejected as being fully anticipated by Richa (U.S. Patent No. 2,284,232) under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

The rejection has been noted and the claims have been amended in an effort to even more clearly define the invention of the instant application. The claims are patentable for the reasons set forth below. Support for the changes is found in claim 5 of the instant application, as originally filed.

Before discussing the prior art in detail, it is believed that a brief review of the invention as claimed, would be helpful.

Claim 1 calls for, *inter alia*:

the cavities having at least intermittently different air pressures when inflated by the devices.

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The Richa reference discloses an apparatus for finishing garments having an inflatable body portion including an inflatable form (37).

The reference does not show the cavities having at least intermittently different air pressures when inflated by the devices, as recited in claim 1 of the instant application. The Richa reference discloses an inflatable body portion including an inflatable form. Richa does not disclose cavities having at least intermittently different air pressures when inflated. This is contrary to the invention of the instant application as claimed, in which the cavities have at least intermittently different air pressures when inflated by the devices.

It is accordingly believed to be clear that none of the references, whether taken alone or in any combination, either show or suggest the features of claim 1. Claim 1 is, therefore, believed to be patentable over the art and since all of the dependent claims are ultimately dependent on claim 1, they are believed to be patentable as well.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-18 are solicited.

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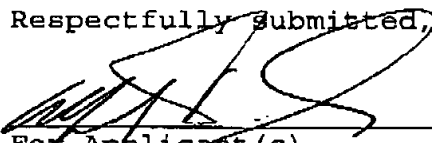
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In the event the Examiner should still find any of the claims to be unpatentable, counsel respectfully requests a telephone call so that, if possible, patentable language can be worked out.

Petition for extension is herewith made. The extension fee for response within a period of two months pursuant to Section 1.136(a) in the amount of \$430 in accordance with Section 1.17 is enclosed herewith.

Please charge any other fees which might be due with respect to Sections 1.16 and 1.17 to the Deposit Account of Lerner & Greenberg P.A., No. 12-1099.

Respectfully Submitted,


For Applicant(s)

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December 1, 2004

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